

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020**

A Public Hearing was called to order at 7:16 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2020 in the Enfield Town Hall Council Chambers, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut.

Present were Councilors Bosco, Cekala, Hemmeler, Kiner, Ludwick, Mangini, Muller, Riley Sferrazza, Szewczak and Unghire. Also present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Kasia Purciello; Town Clerk, Suzanne Olechnicki and Town Attorney, James Tallberg; Director of Public works, Donald Nunes

Chairman Ludwick read the public notice as follows:

Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and pursuant to Governor Lamont's Executive Orders, public comment on the proposed amendments to the Enfield Town Code, Chapter 30, Solid Waste and Recycling ordinance was received by written testimony only. Electors or taxpayers submitted comments to an email address dedicated to receiving public comment at PHComments@enfield.org

All public comments received were posted on the Town's website under Town Council.

The Town received 13 public comments on the proposed amendments to the Enfield Town Code, Chapter 30, Solid Waste and Recycling ordinance, and in full disclosure, the majority of them were not in favor of the change, and they are part of the public record.

As there were no comments, Chairman Ludwick closed the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Chairman Ludwick on Monday, October 5, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m.

PRAYER – The prayer was given by Councilor Sferrazza

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL-CALL – Present were Councilors Bosco, Cekala, Hemmeler, Kiner, Ludwick, Mangini, Muller, Riley, Sferrazza, Szewczak and Unghire. Also present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Kasia Purciello; Town Clerk, Suzanne Olechnicki; Town Attorney, James Tallberg; Chief Technology Officer, Paul Russell; Deputy Director of Recreation, Mary Keller; Director of Finance, John Wilcox; Director of Public Works, Donald Nunes; Chief of Police, Alaric Fox

FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Ludwick made the fire evacuation announcement.

MOTION #5537 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini to accept the minutes for the September 8, 2020 Special Meeting, September 21, 2020 Special Meeting and September 21, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5537** adopted 11-0-0.

SPECIAL GUESTS

There were no special guests this evening.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There were no comments from the public.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Councilor Mangini stated Rotary International, courtesy of the Rossi family, was given a million-mask challenge. She noted she is the President of the Rotary Club and Councilors Muller and Unghire are also members. She noted she asked for and received a thousand face masks for Enfield. She noted the Rotary Club agreed to donate these masks to Enfield's first responders. She thanked Councilor Muller for his help with the handling of the masks. Mr. Bromson thanked the Rotary Club for this donation.

Councilor Bosco thanked everyone who commented on the trash ordinance. He noted there are a lot of misconceptions about this ordinance. He stated people are worried about the second barrel, and he clarified that on holidays people will be able to use their second barrels. He noted this is not going to happen immediately because they will vet this very well, and he encourages anyone with questions to contact him or Councilor Szewczak. He clarified that businesses will also be limited to one barrel. He noted people will not be charged with a trash tax. He explained if Enfield does not reduce the amount of trash, at the end of five years, Enfield will be paying an additional \$228,000 in fees. He stated they must reduce the amount of trash. He noted Enfield's recycling numbers have been going down, therefore, they must recycle more, so they can get those materials out of the trash stream and bring down the cost for everyone. He urged people to contact the Town Hall or a Councilor, so they can get accurate information.

Councilor Unghire stated this is just starting the discussion concerning the trash ordinance. She noted a committee has been working for years trying to come up with a solution. She stated Enfield's transfer station is only a transfer station, and materials are transported elsewhere,. She noted the Town's costs to dispose of trash are continually rising, and they're trying to figure the best way to manage expenses.

Councilor Unghire congratulated Jamie Hurley from the Hazardville Fire Department, who came up with the idea to beautify Enfield by having the fire hydrants painted. She noted they had a contest, and several hydrants were painted, and awards were given out.

Councilor Szewczak stated part of the ordinance is to enforce people properly putting out their trash barrels. She noted there's no fee for owning the second barrel, which can be used after a holiday. She stated the fee would come if a person wants to be able to use a second barrel weekly, and that is not a property tax, but rather just a usage fee. She noted the cost is not to pick up the barrel, but rather to dispose of the trash. She stated one of the questions from the public was that there's no fee to pick up trash for the Board of Education.

Councilor Mangini stated its important for the committee to review and try and understand where the residents are coming from regarding their questions. She noted she's looking forward to the next committee meeting so they can look at more detail.

Councilor Muller commended Connie Provencher and ERFC for a wonderful Town to Table event this past weekend on the Town Green. He noted the food was great and it was a great event.

MOTION #5538 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor to suspend the rules to address under Miscellaneous this evening Items 14 B5, B6, B7, E, F, J, K, L and M.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5538** adopted 11-0-0.

Chairman Ludwick thanked Bob Marshall and Optum for cleaning up the dog park. He noted the park is now open.

Chairman Ludwick stated the Halloween decorations all over town are awesome. He noted it's great to be in a town that still celebrates the little things, and Halloween is a fun holiday for children.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Bromson stated that due to popular demand, the Farmers Market will continue through the end of October, and those dates are October 11, October 18 and concluding on October 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He noted both residents and vendors requested this extension. He noted he's glad it has been such a success.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Tallberg indicated he had no report this evening.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

There were no reports this evening.

OLD BUSINESS

APPOINTMENTS (TOWN COUNCIL)

MOTION #5539 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Cekala to remove Item #8 from the table.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5539** adopted 11-0-0.

NOMINATION #5540 by Councilor Hemmeler to appoint Robert Hendrickson (R) to the Inland Wetland Watercourse Agency for a term which expires 06/30/2021.

MOTION #5541 by Councilor Sferrazza, seconded by Councilor Cekala to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5541** adopted 11-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Robert Hendrickson appointed to the Inland Wetland Watercourse Agency by an 11-0-0 vote.

All other Old Business appointments remained tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no New Business items.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chairman Ludwick stated Items 14 B1, 2 and 3 and G, H and I will remain on the agenda.

All other items have been moved to Miscellaneous.

MISCELLANEOUS

NOMINATION #5542 by Councilor Muller to appoint Todd Kinnin (I) to the JFK School Renovation Building Committee.

MOTION #5543 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5543** adopted 11-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Todd Kinnin appointed to the JFK School Renovation Building Committee by an 10-0-0 vote. Councilor Bosco absent at the vote.

NOMINATION #5544 by Councilor Muller to appoint Christine DeBonee (R) as an Alternate member to the JFK School Renovation Building Committee.

MOTION #5545 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5545** adopted 10-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Christine DeBonee appointed to the JFK School Renovation Building Committee by a 10-0-0 vote.

NOMINATION #5546 by Councilor Muller to appoint Andrew LaPlante (D) as an Alternate member to the JFK School Renovation Building Committee.

MOTION #5547 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Sferrazza to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5547** adopted 11-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Andrew LaPlante appointed to the JFK School Renovation Building Committee by an 11-0-0 vote.

RESOLUTION #5548 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO: Town Clerk

Salaries Part-Time	10160100-512000	\$3,716
FICA	10160100-522000	\$ 230
Medicare	10160100-522100	\$ 54
Postage	10160100-553500	\$4,000
Printing & Reproduction	10160100-555000	\$3,500
Office Supplies	10160100-561200	\$ 928

FROM: Other Revenue

Grant to Covid Federal	10040000-460004	\$12,428
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of September 25, 2020.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated there's no budget impact. He noted this is a transfer, and they received \$12,428 from a state grant. He stated the Town Clerk will spend it on the record-breaking number of absentee ballots that need to be processed, including part-time help, postage, etc. He noted Town Clerk, Suzanne Olechnicki, and her staff have been doing an incredible job. He thanked the Town Clerk for her hard work and that of the Registrars.

Ms. Olechnicki stated this is helpful, especially the extra money for the part-time help that they are getting.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5548** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5549 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO: Human Resources

Other Professional Services	1017000-533900	\$20,000
Travel	1017000-558000	\$ 2,000

FROM: Non-Departmental Charges

Unallocated Contingency	10800092-584000	\$22,000
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of October 5, 2020.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated this is to allow the Human Resource Director to pay for HR Gov to do the Manager recruitment. He noted the application process will close October 16th.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5549** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5550 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Chapter VI, Section I of the Town Charter, the Enfield Town Council does hereby appoint Christopher W. Bromson as Town Manager. His term shall become effective October 16, 2020 and end when a new, permanent, full-time appointed Town Manager commences employment with the Town.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5550** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5551 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Muller.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter V, Section XIV of the Town Charter, the Enfield Town Council does hereby adopt the pay rates for Summer, Seasonal and Temporary Employees in the Recreation Division effective September 1, 2020.

Chairman Ludwick stated his understanding this is part of the minimum wage increase that the state passed, and Mr. Bromson stated that's correct. He noted the new seasonal pay rates in June were adopted before the new minimum wage increase became effective September 1, 2020 to \$12.00 per hour. He noted this is to comply with state law.

Ms. Keller stated this allows them to stay competitive with their pay rates. She noted these employees are required to have a lot of certifications and training, and this will help retain those employees.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5551** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5552 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter V, Section 14 of the Town Charter, the rates of pay for the following election workers will be increased to the following:

Checkers, Ballot Clerks, Tabulator Tenders and Demonstrators

\$13.00 per hour effective September 1, 2020

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 14 of the Town Charter, the rates of pay for the following election workers will be increased to the following:

Moderators	\$18.00 per hour effective September 1, 2020
Assistant Registrars/Moderators	\$15.00 per hour effective September 1, 2020
Head Moderator	\$21.00 per hour effective September 1, 2020

Mr. Bromson stated this was budgeted for, and the Registrars are seeking Council approval.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5552** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5553 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available for targeted small-scale infrastructure improvements to improve accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians under the Connecticut Community Connectivity Program, administered by the State Department of Transportation (DOT); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL, that the Town Manager, Christopher W. Bromson, is authorized to sign and submit the grant application, subject to review and approval by the Town Attorney, in the name and on behalf of the Town of Enfield.

Mr. Bromson stated this is coming on an expedited basis because the deadline for the application is quickly approaching. He noted Nelson Tereso found this grant money. He stated this would be a continuation of a gap in the sidewalk program. He noted the cost for the design would have to be borne by the Town, which is approximately 10% of \$400,000 amounting to around \$40,000 to \$50,000. He stated his belief Public Works has that within their budget for architectural and engineering just for this purpose.

Ms. Purciello stated this grant would be for a sidewalk on the south side of Elm Street between Palomba Drive to Shaker and Elm Streets. She noted the estimate for this project is \$380,000 for construction and approximately \$45,000 for design work. She stated the deadline to apply for this grant is October 16th, and they expect to hear about the award of this grant in January of 2021. She noted if the Town receives this grant, they have three years to do this project.

Chairman Ludwick clarified that the grant would cover most of the cost, and the Town would be responsible for \$45,000. He noted this area is a dangerous area for pedestrians. He commended Ms. Purciello and Mr. Tereso for their work on this grant.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5553** adopted 11-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Neal Narkon, 5 Clear Street

Raised the following questions and points:

- Where does Enfield send its trash?
- According to the CCR website, their plant seems to be the most efficient.
- Believes all towns should get together to form a consortium.
- Current trash companies should improve their capacity.
- Governor Lamont should invest money to upgrade these plants.
- Are existing gray barrels grandfathered?
- When and where will the subcommittee be meeting to discuss the solid waste ordinance?

Mr. Bromson stated the Director of Public Works did a presentation at the last meeting, and that can be found on the Town's website.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Bosco stated people can use the tipper barrels that they have, and they can use their second barrel on holidays. He noted people will purchase a tag, so they can use that second tipper barrel.

He stated at this time, they are projecting the tipping fee to be \$97.00 per ton, and there's talk of \$125.00 per ton because there's nowhere to get rid of the trash. He noted they will look at the recycling as well. He stated Councilor Riley mentioned that other towns are accepting more items that can be recycled. He noted they will look at this very thoroughly, and they will make a decision that works the best.

Councilor Hemmeler thanked Mr. Narkon for his input and constructive ideas. She noted at this time, this is just a community conversation, and this will take a while. She pointed out it's \$10.00 per ton for recycling and \$80 per ton for trash, therefore, they need to find a way to educate people to recycle more because it's a lot less expensive.

Chairman Ludwick commended the Town Manager and Town staff for their work in reopening the town steadily and safely. He noted the senior center opened today, and he hopes this is the beginning of getting back to normal.

Mr. Bromson stated Enfield has been a leader in the area with its safe manner of reopening. He noted Enfield came back online as soon as they were able. He stated he's very proud of that, and it is because of the ingenuity and dedication of Town employees and directors.

Chairman Ludwick stated the pickleball courts have been completed and are first class. He noted these courts are getting a lot of use, and it's a great game.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #5554 by Councilor Unghire, seconded by Councilor Muller to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5554** adopted 11-0-0, and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:12 p.m.